

REMARKS

Summary of Office Action

Claims 1, 9, 11, 15, 18 and 19 stand rejected under §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kim (US 6,064,455).

Claims 2 and 4 stand rejected under §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kim in view of Lee (US 2003/0223020).

Claims 5 and 10 stand rejected under §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kim and Lee in view of Shiotani et al. (JP 2001/338512).

Claims 6, 7, 12, and 13 stand rejected under §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kim in view of Nakano (US 2003/0053008).

Claims 14 and 20 stand rejected under §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kim in view of Matsuda et al. (US 2002/0167626).

Claim 17 stands rejected under §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kim in view of Shiotani et al.

Summary of Amendment

Claims 1, 11-15, 17, and 18 have been amended. Claims 3 and 16 stand cancelled. Claims 21-23 have been added. No new matter has been entered. Claims 1, 2, 4-15, 17-23 are pending for consideration.

All Claims Comply With §103

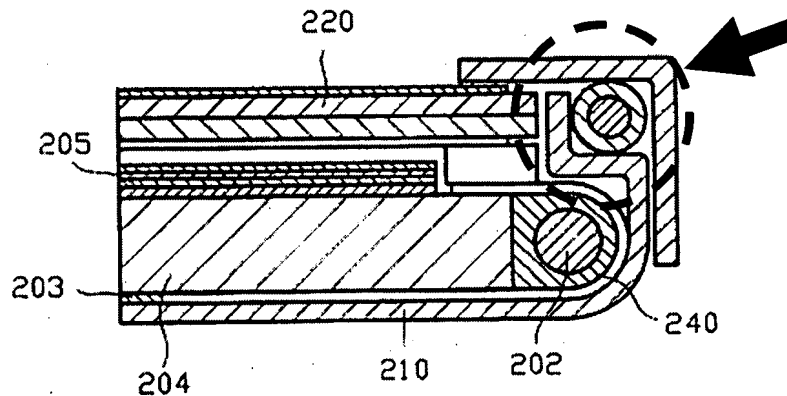
Claims 1, 9, 11, 15, 18 and 19 stand rejected under §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kim. Claims 2 and 4 stand rejected under §103(a) as allegedly being

unpatentable over Kim in view of Lee. Claims 5 and 10 stand rejected under §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kim and Lee in view of Shiotani et al. Claims 6, 7, 12, and 13 stand rejected under §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kim in view of Nakano. Claims 14 and 20 stand rejected under §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kim in view of Matsuda et al. Claim 17 stands rejected under §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kim in view of Shiotani et al. To the extent that these references are considered to be relevant to the claims, as amended, Applicant respectfully traverses.

As amended, independent claims 1 and 18 recite, in part, “a bottom cover...having an end portion with a shape that substantially follows a contour of the reflection sheet to substantially surround and encase the reflection sheet and to support and affix the reflection sheet.”

(Emphasis added.) As amended, independent claim 11 recites, in part, “a bottom cover extending from a rear side of the reflection plate to an outer side of the reflection sheet such that an end portion of the bottom cover extends to the outer side of the reflection sheet substantially following a contour of the reflection sheet to substantially surround and encase the reflection sheet and to support and affix the reflection sheet.” Applicant respectfully submits that none of the art of record, whether taken individually or in combination, teaches at least such a feature.

For example, FIG. 5 of Kim is reproduced and annotated below for convenience.



As shown, the press frame 210 (construed as the “bottom cover”) of Kim does not have an end portion with a shape that substantially follows a contour of the reflection sheet to substantially surround and encase the reflection sheet and to support and affix the reflection sheet. Moreover, it would not be obvious to one of skill in the art to modify the end portion of the press frame 210 to do so because the tip of the end portion of the press frame 210 (shown in the dotted circle above) is needed to support what appears to be the front cover of the display device.

Claims 2, 4-10, 12-15, 17, 19, and 20 depend from the corresponding one of base claims 1, 11, and 18, thereby incorporating all the claim features of the respective one of base claims 1, 11, and 18. Lee, Shiotani et al., Nakano, and Matsuda et al. all fail to cure at least the deficiencies of Kim described above. Accordingly, Kim, Lee, Shiotani et al., Nakano, and Matsuda et al., whether taken individually or in combination, fail to teach or suggest all the features of claims 1, 2, 4-15, 17-20 for at least the reasons explained above. Therefore, Applicant respectfully request that the §103 rejection be withdrawn.

New Claims

As discussed above, Kim, Lee, Shiotani et al., Nakano, and Matsuda et al., whether taken individually or in combination, all fail to teach or suggest at least an end portion of the bottom cover with a shape that substantially follows the contour of the reflection sheet to substantially surround and encase the reflection sheet as recited in independent claims 1, 11, and 18. New claims 21, 22, and 23, which depend from independent claims 1, 11, and 18, respectively, further recite that the end portion of the bottom cover contacts the reflection sheet. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that new claims 21, 22, and 23 are allowable over Kim, Lee, Shiotani et al., Nakano, and Matsuda et al., whether taken individually or in combination, because of their dependence to claims 1, 11, and 18, and the additional features recited therein.

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CONCLUSION


In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and timely allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of the response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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